



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



CELEBRATING GOD'S QUEER CHILDREN: A SERVICE OF PRIDE

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 - 7:00 PM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Queer Ministry at Trinity by Richard and Gail Moose.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister & Preaching	Susan Crowell
Assisting Minister	Patrick Preacher
Pianist	Jim Parham
Lectors	Nick Arnold Jim Hennigan
Prayers	Susie Smith
Kite Flyers	Bethany Hybl Missy Roberts
Greeters	Mark Allen David Foster Anne Harmon David Nichols Karen Nichols Christy Strouse Brad Waters
Ushers	John Beckford Bonnie Farmer
Reception Hosts	Jonathan Preacher Lani Wise
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Stand as able

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All Are Welcome

#641

**Let us build a house where love can swell and all can safely
live, a place where saints and children tell how
hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and
visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
Christ shall end divisions:**

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and
true, where all God's children dare to seek to
dream God's reign a new. Here the cross shall stand as
witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we
claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and
wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground here
peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through
Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in
Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and
stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and
live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the
stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an
end to fear and danger: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where all the named, their songs and visions
heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as
words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and
laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house
proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain***

WELCOME BLESSING

A Blessing for You as Holy People

Blessed are you who gather here tonight.
You who gather to feel loved,
You who gather to reject hate.

You are enough.
You are trans enough; queer enough; ally enough.
You are brave enough; strong enough; you are YOU enough.
The only “right” way to be is the way that is you.
Be as God made you so as to tend your spirit.

No matter what you have been told
or what you have read on social media,
You are blessed. You are holy.
Blessed are you who are gay, lesbian, bi, straight, and asexual.
Blessed are you who are transgender, cisgender, non-binary, or somewhere between.

You are Holy in your toes, your fingernails, and your lips;
Holy in your scars.
You are Holy in your hair, or lack thereof.
You are Holy in all your genders and sexualities.

You are a blessed and beloved Child of God.
You are not a burden, a lie, or a distraction.
You are a Holy encounter.
Allow these truths to settle deep in your bones.
Live boldly into who God created you to be.

In the name of the Holy Parent,
And of the + Child,
And of the Holy Spirit, claim your blessedness.

AMEN.

Please be seated

Flying Your Kite Again

Patrick Preacher

THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. God of Boundless love, you require each of us to love justice. May we follow Christ's example to see, name, and care for all whom we encounter. May your love and grace fill our words and actions, turning us away from the sins of homophobia, transphobia, sexism, and racism, to live for you and serve our neighbor. Soften our hearts and expand our awareness today to share in the spirit of the Kin-dom of God, making the church a place where community is built to experience your grace. In your name, we pray,

Amen

WORD

FIRST READING

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

A reading from Romans

What should be our response? Simply this: "If God Is for us, who can be against us?" Since God did not spare the Only Begotten, but gave Christ up for the sake of us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that God will freely give us everything. Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones, since God is the One who justifies, who has power to condemn? Only Christ Jesus, who died or rather, was raised and sits at the right hand of God, and now intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Trouble? Calamity? Persecution? Hunger? Nakedness? Danger? Violence? Yet in this we are more than conquerors because of God who has loved us. For I am certain that neither death, nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, neither heights nor depths nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Savior.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Stand as able

WORD

GOSPEL

John 4:1-29

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard he was attracting and baptizing more disciples than John ²though it was really not Jesus baptizing, but his disciples ³he left Judea and returned to Galilee. ⁴This meant that he had to pass through Samaria. ⁵He stopped at Sychar, a town in Samaria, near the tract of land Jacob had given to his son Joseph, ⁶and Jacob's Well was there. Jesus, weary from the journey, came and sat by the well. It was around noon. ⁷When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸The disciples had gone off to the town to buy provisions. ⁹The Samaritan woman replied, "You're a Jew. How can you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?" since Jews had nothing to do with Samaritans. ¹⁰Jesus answered, "If only you recognized God's gift, and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would have asked him for a drink instead, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹"If you please," she challenged Jesus, "you don't have a bucket and this well is deep. Where do you expect to get this 'living water'?" ¹²Surely you don't pretend to be greater than our ancestors Leah and Rachel and Jacob, who gave us this well and drank from it with their descendants and flocks?" ¹³Jesus replied, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. ¹⁴But those who drink the water I give them will never be thirsty; no, the water I give will become fountains within them, springing up to provide eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to Jesus, "Give me this water, so that I won't grow thirsty and have to keep coming all the way here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband and then come back here." ¹⁷"I don't have a husband," replied the woman. "You're right you don't have a husband!" Jesus exclaimed. ¹⁸"The fact is, you've had five, and the man you're living with now is not your husband. So what you've said is quite true." ¹⁹"I can see you're a prophet," answered the woman. ²⁰"Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you people claim that Jerusalem is the place where God ought to be worshiped." ²¹Jesus told her, "Believe me, the hour is coming when you'll worship God neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You people worship what you don't understand; we worship what we do understand after all, salvation is from the Jewish people. ²³Yet the hour is coming and is already here when real worshipers will worship Abba God in Spirit and truth. Indeed, it is just such worshipers whom God seeks. ²⁴God is Spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth."

²⁵ The woman said to Jesus, “I know that the Messiah the Anointed One is coming and will tell us everything.” ²⁶ Jesus replied, “I who speak to you am the Messiah.” ²⁷ The disciples, returning at this point, were shocked to find Jesus having a private conversation with a woman. But no one dared to ask, “What do you want of him?” or “Why are you talking with her?” ²⁸ The woman then left her water jar and went off into the town. She said to the people, ²⁹ “Come and see someone who told me everything I have ever done! Could this be the Messiah?”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

An Invitation Home

Pastor Crowell

Stand as able

We Are a Rainbow
by David Kai

We're the light of all the world, we are a city on a hill,
we're a candle on a stand proclaiming light,
we will not hide our lamp beneath a bushel anymore,
we will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright.

Refrain

***We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace
for the flood of tears will fin'lly cease to be,
come sine your rainbow, splash you hues across the sky,
Paint the world in colors proud and bold and free.***

We're a coat of many colors, sewn from many different threads,
Covering all in warmth, in welcome and in grace,
God said, "Let there be light", created every varied shade,
In the rainbow each of us can find a place. ***Refrain***

We're the hope to still believe in tomorrow's better day,
we are peace in a world that's torn apart,
we are joy that will last in all the struggles that we face,
we are love that blooms and grows in ev'ry heart. ***Refrain***

When we face the storms of life, we will never be alone,
For our God will be with us on the way,
Hand in hand, side by side, we won't be frightened any more,
As the mourning night of tears breaks into day. ***Refrain***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the one who names us, claims us, and calls us beloved, we pray for the world, the church, and all in need...

Holy God, You made us in your image, and you call us good. Silence the voices of shame and hatred – including the ones in our own heads – and inspire us to love ourselves and one another the way you so desperately, passionately, and deeply love us.

God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Holy God, Teach us a fondness and delight for our bodies as we are called to live in them, in all of their holy, messy, and fabulous glory.

God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Holy God, Teach us to love our neighbors who live in different skin and to love intelligences and abilities of all kinds, and to practice loving-kindness toward all.

God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Holy God, Make us bold in our proclamation that the lives, loves, and gifts of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Ace, Queer, Intersex, Native, Black, Brown, Incarcerated, Disabled, and Migrant people matter to you, and so therefore matter to us.

God of grace,

Hear our Prayer.

Holy God, we pray for those who need hope. For those who feel excluded. For all to know that they have value and are worthy of love, acceptance, and celebration. We pray for all those we name on our lips or silently in our hearts....

God of grace,

Hear our Prayer.

Holy God, We pray for our LGBTQIA+ siblings who have lost their lives to hateful and fearful acts. We pray for those who work to make our neighborhoods safer and more peaceful places. End violence. Restore communities. We pray for peace and comfort for the families and friends of queer siblings who have lost their lives. Strengthen us and keep us until that day when we meet you face to face.

God of grace,

Hear our Prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those desires too deep for words, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Stand as able

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed our right, our duty, and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you,
God of justice and accompaniment,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You made us all in your image;
in the spirit of abounding love and creativity,
you formed us. You sent us your advocate
so that we can know how to advocate for our
beloveds as you strengthen us to love and uphold one another.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,
 gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people
 for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Amen.

At this table make us your body.
Form us to be a people of justice and peace.
Fill us with gratitude and generosity
that we may bear the fruit of love in word and
deed.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Nourish our bodies so that we may be fed.
Teach us to see You, Christ, in those around us.
As we prepare this table for you, we prepare our
hearts for your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our creator in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kin-dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

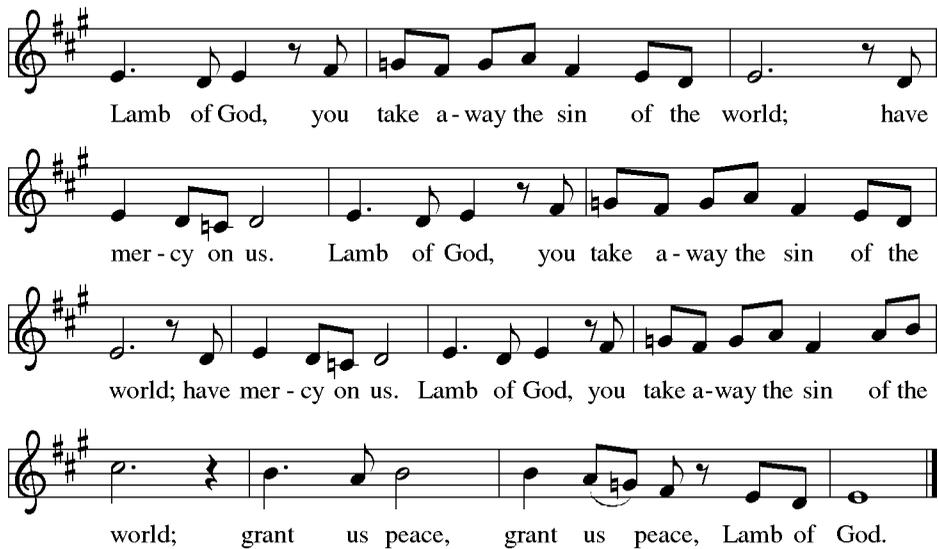
Please be seated

COMMUNION

Worshipers will come forward to receive the bread and wine and then return to their seats to consume the elements.

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's love and grace.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION



The image shows a musical score for a song, likely a hymn or anthem, written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The music is arranged in four staves, each with a corresponding line of lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

**Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright
morning of this world. Creator, source of ev'ry breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.**

**Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering
me your food of light, grain of life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.**

**Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one, in arms of
patience hold me close, so that in faith I root and
grow until I flow'r, until I know.**

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

#708

Refrain

***Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show
us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

**Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
mast who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain***

**Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race,
neighbors are nearby and far away. *Refrain***

**These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain***

**Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you. *Refrain***

**“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”**

Stand as able

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Light Dawns on a Weary World

#726

**Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to
see all people’s dignity. Light dawns on a
weary world: the promised day of justice comes.**

Refrain

***The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.***

**Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find
bread and children’s dreams are fed. Love grows in a
weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain***

**Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once
forlorn, find wilderness reborn. Hope blooms in a
weary world: the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain***

BLESSING

Siblings in Christ, let us go out into the world in peace;
love boldly; proclaim loudly;
welcome, include, and celebrate our Black, Brown, Indigenous,
People of Color and LGBTQIA+ siblings; and enter back
into this space knowing that welcome is a priority in this congregation.

Stand strong against injustices of this world;
and let this faith community be a safe and brave space of care and renewal
for ALL of God's children.

May the Holy Parent surround and fill you with the knowledge that you are loved,
affirmed, cherished, and celebrated.

May the Son walk with you as you march with your queer and trans siblings.

May the Spirit ignite the fires of justice in your heart.

The blessing of God, Sovereign, Savior, and Spirit, ✝
bless, strengthen, and comfort you this day and always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go out into the world and shout from the rooftops that God's love is for ALL – NO
EXCEPTIONS!

Thanks be to God.

Everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the back corner of the Gym.

Postlude

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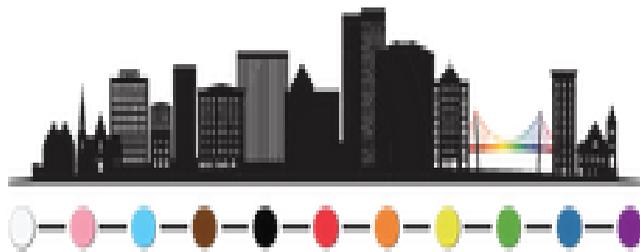
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A special thanks to Upstate Pride SC for including tonight's worship service in Black Pride Week's schedule of events. Please visit their table set up in the corner of the Gym. The Black Pride Unity March and Festival kicks off Saturday morning on South Main Street with a march at 11:00 AM.



Trinity is always working to create brave and inclusive spaces for all of God's people. We understand religious trauma or "church hurt" is real and can be very painful. We are grateful for our partnership with 864Pride as they work to make mental healthcare and other LGBTQIA+ support services accessible for everyone. Please stop by their table for more information on the programs they offer.



864 pride

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